

# Minibeasts and Growing



## Summer 1

Communication and Language	Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Physical Development
<p><i>Checkpoint</i>  <i>Can they shift from one task to another if attention is fully obtained? (Age 3)</i>  <i>Is the child using sentences of 4-6 words? (Age 4)</i>  <i>Can they answer simple "why" questions? (Age 4)</i>  <i>Is the child using "because", "or" "and" to join sentences? (Age 4)</i>  <i>Is the child using future and past tense? (Age 4)</i></p>	<p><i>Checkpoint</i>  <i>Can they take turns and share with others, with adult support? (Age 3)</i>  <i>Can they settle at activities for a while? (Age 3)</i>  <i>Do they play alongside others or on their own (Age 4)</i>  <i>Do they take part in pretend play? (Age 4)</i>  <i>Do they take part in pretend play with different roles? (Age 4)</i>  <i>Can they negotiate solutions to conflicts in play? (Age 4)</i></p>	<p><i>Checkpoint</i>  <i>Discuss healthy eating with children</i>  <i>Talk with parents about oral hygiene (Brushing Buddies)</i>  <i>Are children dry during the day? (Age 4)</i>  <i>support with toilet training</i></p>

Communication and Language		Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Physical Development	
<p>Enjoy listening to longer stories and can remember much of what happens.</p> <p>Talk about what they see using a wide range of vocabulary.</p> <p>Understands questions like "Why do you think the caterpillar got so fat?"</p> <p>Ask questions to find out more and to check they understand what has been said.</p>		<p>Develop appropriate ways of being assertive.</p> <p>Talk about their feelings using words like "happy", "sad" "angry" or "worried".</p> <p>Play with one or more other children, extending and elaborating play ideas.</p> <p>Express their feelings and consider the feelings of others.</p>	<p>Start taking part in some group activities which they make up for themselves or in teams.</p> <p>Are increasingly able to use and remember sequences and patterns of movements which are related to music and rhythm.</p> <p>Choose the right resources to carry out their own plan. E.g. choosing a spade to enlarge a hole they have dug with a trowel.</p>	
Literacy	Mathematics	Understanding of the World		Expressive arts and design
<p><b>Birth to Three</b></p> <p>Use continuously due to new intake.</p> <p><b>Three and Four Year Olds</b></p> <p>Understand the 5 key concept of print.</p> <p>Develop their phonological awareness so they can spot, count and recognise words.</p> <p>Engage in extended conversations about stories.</p> <p>Use some of their print and letter knowledge in their early writing.</p> <p>Write some letters accurately.</p>	<p><b>Birth to Three</b></p> <p>Compare amounts saying lots, more or same.</p> <p><b>Three and Four Year Olds</b></p> <p>Subitise up to 3 objects.</p> <p>Show finger numbers up to 5.</p> <p>Know that the last number reached when counting shows how many in a set.</p> <p>Solve real world mathematical problems with numbers up to 5.</p> <p>Combine shapes to make new ones.</p> <p>Begin to describe a sequence of events, real or fictional using words such as first or then.</p>	<p>Use all their senses in hands on exploration or natural materials.</p> <p>Talk about what they see using a wide range of vocabulary.</p> <p>Plant seeds and care for growing plants.</p> <p>Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and an animal.</p> <p>Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment.</p>		<p>Sing the melodic shape of familiar songs.</p> <p>Pitch match - sing the pitch of a tone by another person.</p> <p>Create their own songs, or improvise a song around one they know.</p> <p>Draw with increasing complexity and detail.</p> <p>Explore and engage in music making and dance, performing solo or in groups.</p>

## PSED

- Talk to children about caring for minibeasts and wildlife in the local area.
- Challenge the children to work together in teams to create the longest caterpillar they can in the blocks/construction/buttons area.
- Add some minibeasts in the setting to encourage children to show care for living creatures.
- Use the parachute to encourage children to work together to make the soft toy minibeast dance and jump.

## Literacy

- Share minibeast stories for the children to retell. E.g. the hungry caterpillar.
- Silly rhyming words linked to minibeasts. Encourage children to hear rhyming words in stories.
- Chalk different writing patterns outside.
- Play outdoor phonics games linked to initial sounds.

## Mathematics

- Collect a collection of different seeds for sorting and categorising.
- Subitise amounts for seeds.
- Compare heights of plants as they grow.
- Minibeast counting songs.
- Positional language - hiding minibeasts, playing hide and seek.
- 2d and 3d shapes to make minibeasts.
- Make ladybirds and count the spots.

## Communication & Language

- Guess the minibeast from the clues (PowerPoint)
- Listening game - one child is blindfolded in the middle of the circle children in the circle to take turns to say "It's only me the..." blindfolded child has to guess the speaker.
- Go on a minibeast hunt and discuss what minibeasts they can find.
- Talk about what a plant needs to grow, discuss what they think will happen to the seed.

## Understanding the World

- Lifecycles of various minibeasts
- Children to choose a minibeast to learn about in depth.
- Minibeast hunt
- Observe minibeasts and their habitats - can children create their own habitats using the small world?
- Planting a variety of seeds - what do they need to grow?
- Woodland walk
- Sorting natural materials - leaves and seeds.
- Plant growth sequencing activity.
- Operating the CD player to play minibeast songs and stories.
- Set up a planting area outside. (Wildflowers - bees and pollination)

## Physical Development

- Use tweezers to catch plastic minibeasts in jelly.
- Play some minibeast themed music and encourage children to move to the music e.g. flight of the bumblebee.
- Choose appropriate resources to plant seeds and bulbs.
- Move around in different ways to represent minibeasts e.g. wiggle like a worm.

## Expressive Arts

- Summer collage
- Paint flowers
- Design and make a fairy garden.
- Show children how to thicken and change textures of paint to create a flower painting in the style of Van Gogh.
- Use construction to build a beanstalk.
- Role play - florist, greengrocer and garden centre.
- Sing familiar nursery rhymes that contain minibeasts or growing.
- Model how to paint a symmetrical butterfly painting.
- Mix colours.
- Minibeast investigation lab.

# Vocabulary

Bee	Slide	Pollen
Ant	Slimy	Blossom
Spider	Shell	Soil/Compost
Worm	Wings	Seed
Caterpillar	Legs	Shoot
Butterfly	Sting	Bulb
Snail	Antennae	Plant
Slug	Spots	Water
Wasp	Stripes	Pot
Woodlouse	Spiral	Sunlight
Dragonfly	Flower	Rain
Ladybird	Stem	Grow
Fly	Petal	
Crawl	Roots	
Wriggle	Leaves	

## Children's Ideas:



## P4C Prompts

(Starting points - may change with children's responses)

- Would a worm make a good pet?
- What would you be if you went into a chrysalis?
- Was Jack right to take the hen?
- Was the giant really bad?
- Is it ever right to steal?
- Can you design your own magic bean?